

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05728 241629Z

42

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 SP-02 PM-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00

INR-07 CIAE-00 /040 W

----- 030125

P R 241426Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9605

INFO CNO WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

COMSECONDFLT NORFOLK VA

CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

COMONE BOSTON MA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 5728

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: OCLR, UR, US, PFOR

SUBJ: EXCHANGE OF SHIP VISITS BOSTON AND LENINGRAD

REF: USDAO MOSCOW CONF 0572 DTG 151541Z APR 75, PARA 5E

1. WHILE WE HAVE NOT BEEN TOLD OFFICIALLY WHERE THE SOVIETS INTEND TO BERTH THE U.S. SHIPS LEAHY AND TATTNALL DURING THE MAY 12-17 VISIT TO LENINGRAD, IT IS BECOMING CLEAR THAT THEIR INTENTION IS TO BERTH THEM IN A REMOTE, LOW-VISIBILITY LOCATION. CNSUL GENERAL NEUBERT IS IN STRONG OPPOSITION TO THIS, AS IS RADM MAYO, AND I FULLY CONCUR WITH THEM. I RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT RAISE THE ISSUE ASAP WITH THE SOVIET EMBASSY AT LEAST AT THE VORONTSOV LEVEL, MAKING CLEAR THAT OUR VIEW THIS IS A POLITICAL, NOT A TECHNICAL ISSUE. I WOULD THEN EXPECT TO SUPPORT THE DEPARTMENT'S DEMARCHE HERE.

2. FOR DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION, EXCERPTS FROM THE CONSUL GENERAL'S CABLE TO ME ON THIS SUBJECT FOLLOW:
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 05728 241629Z

"A. I AM SURE WE AGREE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAKE THIS FIRST-EVER U.S. NAVAL VISIT TO LENINGRAD AS SUCCESSFUL AS POSSIBLE. TO ME THIS MEANS AS VISIBLE AS POSSIBLE; HENCE THE QUESTION OF WHERE THE SHIPS ARE MOORED IS CENTRAL. LEFT TO THEIR OWN DEVICES, THE SOVIETS WILL, I'M AFRAID, ACT AS THOUGH THE ISSUE IS SIMPLY TECHNICAL AND RELEGATE US TO THE FAR REACHES OF VASILEVSKIY ISLAND. I THEREFORE TAKE THE LIBERTY OF SHARING MY CONCERN WITH YOU AND ASKING YOUR HELP.

"B. I GATHER FROM JIM MAYO AND DICK LIFE (WHO IS HERE NOW) THAT THE SOVIETS SEEM TO BE THINKING IN TERMS OF PUTTING US AT THE PASSENGER PORT (MORPORT) AT THE END OF VASILEVSKIY ISLAND-BEHING A FENCE IN THE BOONDOCKS. THIS IS WHERE THE FRENCH WERE IN 1973.

"C. MONDAY EVENING I ASKED CHERNOV, THE DEPUTY HEEAD OF THE DIP AGENCY, IF HE KNEW WHERE THE SHIPS WOULD BE MOORED. HE SAID THAT HE "ASSUMED" THEY WOULD BE AT THE "MORPORT", NOTING THAT THE FRENCH HAD BEEN THERE. I PROMPTLY TOLD HIM I THOUGHT THAT WAS A TERRIBLE IDEA, THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE EXCHANGE OF VISITS WAS TO DEMONSTRATE AS VISIBLY AS POSSIBLE THE IMPORVED RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES, AND THAT THIS MEANT THE SHIPS SHOULD BE MOORED IN THE NEVA WHERE EVERYONE COULD SEEM THEM. I WENT ON TO SAY THAT SOVS COULD EXPECT FULL NEWS AND TV COVERAGE IN BOSTON; I DOUBTED THAT WOULD BE TRUE IN LENINGRAD. CHERNOV SAID HE WOULD REPORT MY VIEWS TO ADMIRAL LEONENKOV AND OTHERS INVOLVED IN PLANNING THE VISIT."

STOESSEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NAVAL SHIPS, MILITARY VISITS, PORT CLEARANCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW05728
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750144-0440
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750421/aaaaatbu.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 USDAO MOSCOW CONF 0572, 75 DTG 151541Z, 75 APR 75, 75 PARA 5E
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <24 OCT 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXCHANGE OF SHIP VISITS BOSTON AND LENINGRAD
TAGS: OCLR, PFOR, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006